

As a founder and former President of the Federation of Indian Associations (FIA), Mr. Soi performed the essential role of representing Indian groups in New York, New Jersey, and Connecticut. Under his leadership the FIA has thrived and is now known for its annual India Day Parade that goes down New York City's Madison Avenue, the largest celebration of Indian Independence Day outside of India.

As a graduate of Utah State University and Columbia University, Mr. Soi has brought his knowledge and experience to improving his community, as well as the communities of many others. In 2002, he was honored with an "Outstanding Community Service Award" for his tireless service to the Indian-American community. He was also a beacon of hope in the fight to bring democracy to the people of Guyana and supported efforts which led to that nation's first free elections.

Madam Speaker, I sincerely hope that my colleagues will join me in honoring Yash Paul Soi. His leadership and perseverance have improved Indian-American understanding and will long serve as a shining example of what can be accomplished by the determined human spirit.

#### EARMARK DECLARATION

#### HON. HAROLD ROGERS

OF KENTUCKY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, July 30, 2008*

Mr. ROGERS of Kentucky. Madam Speaker, pursuant to the Republican Leadership standards on earmarks, I am submitting the following information for publication in the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD regarding earmarks I received as part of H.R. 6599, Military Construction and Veterans Affairs Appropriations Act, 2009.

Requesting Member: Congressman HAROLD ROGERS.

Bill Number: H.R. 6599.

Account: MILCON, Army National Guard.

Legal Name of Requesting Entity: Kentucky Department of Military Affairs.

Address of Requesting Entity: Boone National Guard Center, 100 Minuteman Parkway, Frankfort, Kentucky 40601.

Description of Request: Provide directed funding of \$7.836 million to complete construction of the Readiness Center Phase 3—London Joint Support Operations Center located in Laurel County, Kentucky. Of this amount, \$646,200 is scheduled for design cost and \$208,000 is for supervision, inspection, and overhead costs. This third and final phase of construction will include administrative space, aircraft hangar space, and paving for hangar aprons, taxiways, and aircraft parking. Aircraft will include various fixed wing aircraft and helicopters, OH-58s, UH-60s, and a C-130. The project is required to fully house the Joint Support Operations equipment and personnel in one facility located in the vicinity of operations. Currently the operation is spread over several facilities approximately 100 miles apart. At the conclusion of this project, the unit will be able to respond quicker and in a much more efficient manner which will allow a greater return on investment funds spent on the operation.

TRIBUTE TO CPL MIGUEL  
RODRIGUEZ

#### HON. HENRY CUELLAR

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, July 30, 2008*

Mr. CUELLAR. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Cpl. Miguel Rodriguez on his retirement from the Texas Department of Public Safety, where he served his State and country honorably for 28 years.

In his 28 years with the Department of Public Safety, Corporal Rodriguez performed a multitude of tasks, such as serving as field training officer in the induction of new officers to the Department, training them on driving, firearms, and accident reconstruction. He helped foster the training of Mexican highway patrolmen, served on interview promotional board for troopers, and worked as chairman on grievance board hearings. Corporal Rodriguez also served on security staff for President George Bush, Sr., on his visit to the University of Texas at Austin. His awards include the District Commander Award, Region Commanders Award, Commanders Accommodations, and Quarter Century Club.

Madam Speaker, I am honored to have had this time to recognize the dedication and commitment of Cpl. Miguel Rodriguez to the State of Texas, and to the United States of America upon his retirement from the Texas Department of Public Safety.

#### HONORING THE LIFE OF GEORGE R. SAMPLE, JR.

#### HON. PHIL ENGLISH

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, July 30, 2008*

Mr. ENGLISH of Pennsylvania. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize and honor the life of George R. Sample, Jr. of Corry, Pennsylvania.

Born and raised in Pennsylvania, Mr. Sample was the longtime publisher of the Corry Journal and had worked there daily since he graduated from college up until becoming ill a few months before he passed away. This outstanding newspaperman got his start in journalism serving as the managing editor of the Collegian newspaper at Pennsylvania State University, where he completed his bachelor's degree in 1946. Throughout his career he strived to make newspapers better.

In the 1960s, Mr. Sample was one of the founders of what would eventually become the American Publishing Co., which was later sold to Hollinger International. He served as vice chairman for Hollinger's American Publishing Co. and was credited for making improvements to the Chicago Sun-Times and the Jerusalem Post. He also created the family-run Sample News Group, which owned two newspapers in Maine and five in Pennsylvania.

In addition to being a well-respected local publisher, George Sample, Jr. was very involved in other aspects of the Corry community. As longtime chairman of the city's Golf Commission, he was known as the driving force behind the North Hills Municipal Golf Course, Corry's top-notch course that has become a vibrant attraction for the community.

Much of the course's growth and success can be attributed to Mr. Sample's efforts.

The life of George Sample, Jr. serves as a role model for us all to follow. He cared about his community and was always working to improve the city.

Madam Speaker, I hope my colleagues will join me in commemorating the life of George Sample, Jr.

#### HONORING THE CITY OF FOREST PARK, GEORGIA ON ITS 100TH ANNIVERSARY

#### HON. DAVID SCOTT

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, July 30, 2008*

Mr. SCOTT of Georgia. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the City of Forest Park for reaching their 100th Anniversary. Forest Park began as Forest Station/Astor on just one square mile of land chartered in 1908. This early community was mostly comprised of farming families, but quickly grew as Forest Park became an important railroad stop close to the bustling hub of Atlanta. Although the railroad gradually lost its more prominent role in the area, the people of Forest Park worked with the railroad and with their neighbors to find new opportunities for themselves and for their community. Their perseverance and hard work have paid off, helping to make Forest Park one of the largest cities in Clayton County and an important center of commerce for Georgia and the Southeast.

Today Forest Park is home to over 21,000 dedicated and productive citizens. This diverse community deserves our commendation for setting a positive example for Georgia and our great nation as a whole. I praise Forest Park for its commitment to its citizens through an outstanding police and fire department, school system, and overall community atmosphere. I also applaud Forest Park for fostering strong and affordable community recreation and leisure programs. These activities serve to bring people of all backgrounds and experiences together in friendship and collaboration. I am proud to see these endeavors encouraging a healthy and dynamic environment for the citizens of Forest Park and promoting positive community values throughout the area.

Forest Park will be holding a centennial celebration for just this purpose on August 14th, 15th, and 16th. This celebration will not only serve as a time of fun and enjoyment, but will also educate the public on the rich history of Forest Park. I also look forward to the increased participation and partnership of the citizenry, public institutions, and local businesses during this time and trust this close connection will continue into the future as it has for the past 100 years. This commemoration of the 100th anniversary of Forest Park is sure to be an enjoyable and fruitful enterprise for all involved.

I would further like to laud the dedicated efforts of Mayor Corine Deyton, and City Council members Sparkle Adams, Debbie Youmans, Maudie McCord, Donald Judson, and Linda Lord for their just and spirited public service in the governing of the City of Forest Park. Congratulations on reaching this 100 year milestone are also certainly due to the citizens of Forest Park. Without their tenacity and resolve, Forest Park would certainly not be the

active and vibrant city that it is today. I wish them well in continuing to enrich the lives of their neighbors and in maintaining a beautiful and prosperous community for the 100, 200, 300 years to come.

In closing, I wish the City of Forest Park a Happy 100th Birthday. As the U.S. Representative to the 13th District of Georgia, I honor the City of Forest Park, its leaders, and its inhabitants for reaching this milestone and look forward to the continuation of its proud legacy.

#### TRIBUTE TO SHANNON GOOD

### HON. DIANA DeGETTE

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 30, 2008

Ms. DEGETTE. Madam Speaker, I rise to recognize the accomplishments and distinguished public service of Shannon Good, my Legislative Director and former Deputy Chief of Staff. Shannon is a trusted advisor and friend. It saddens me to announce that she is leaving my office to pursue her own endeavors. Her tenure has been defined not only by a standard of professionalism that distinguishes exceptional legislative directors, but by a deep and abiding commitment to fairness, high ethical standards and the best interests of the 1st Congressional District of Colorado and this Nation.

Shannon is a Denver native and graduated from East High School and later graduated from Smith College in Northampton, Massachusetts. Shannon has been active in politics for years, volunteering on various local and national campaigns, including mine. Prior to joining my staff, she worked in the Washington, DC office of Governmental Relations for Salomon Brothers where she tracked legislation for Wall Street analysts.

Effective and committed legislative staff is essential to democratic governance. Few people recognize the magnitude and consequence of their contributions—particularly of those intrepid staff members who actually manage the legislative work we do. Shannon's keen intellect, judgment and common sense have been invaluable to me in dealing not only with the issues all of us face, but in guiding my legislative agenda for the past nine years. She has contributed in no small measure to much of the legislation that best serves this Nation. Her work on legislation protecting our Nation's safety net hospitals, simplifying the enrollment process and expanding presumptive eligibility for children in Medicaid, expanding energy efficiency requirements to improve our Nation's energy policy, expanding FDA and USDA authority to ensure food safety and her invaluable work on the "Stem Cell Research Enhancement Act" are but a few of her most noteworthy contributions. Shannon has been my point person for moving significant national legislation through committee and the House. Numerous other staff members from many offices have come to rely upon her for information and guidance on a variety of issues. Shannon is one of the staff experts in the House on women's reproductive health. Any time an issue related to reproductive health has arisen, whether in major legislation or buried in a motion to recommit or an amendment, many in Washington have sought out Shannon's counsel. Furthermore, Shannon Good

has excelled in recognizing and cultivating the talents and skills of my legislative team, both past and present, and she commands their respect and admiration. My District Office staff admire not only her exceptional capabilities, but her directness and understanding of the issues and challenges local offices face.

Shannon is a valued member of my staff and her competence, discernment and measure will be greatly missed. She has been an abiding source of wisdom and prudent counsel. She has done the people's work without pretension and burnished a reputation for decency and professionalism. Shannon is a public servant in the finest sense and her contributions are rich in consequence. My office and indeed, the United States House of Representatives, are losing a valued resource and friend. Please join me in commending Shannon Good, a distinguished public servant and legislative professional. Her character, leadership and dedication have done much to build a better future for all of us.

#### A TRIBUTE HONORING THE MCLEOD-SANDSTROM WEDDING

### HON. LUCILLE ROYBAL-ALLARD

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 30, 2008

Ms. ROYBAL-ALLARD. Madam Speaker, I rise today to extend my best wishes to two young Americans who are starting their new life together this weekend. On Saturday, August 2, 2008, Allison Claire McLeod and Nathaniel Lee Sandstrom will be joined in matrimony surrounded by their loving family and friends at Preston Hall in Baltimore, Maryland.

Allie and Nate, as their family and friends call them, currently live in Baltimore but were both born in the Midwest. In fact, they describe themselves as, "A balanced combination of Midwestern salt-of-the-earth values and Columbia, MD-born neighborliness . . ."

Allie was born in Cleveland, Ohio on May 23, 1980. Her mother, Karen Jean McLeod, is a retired elementary school teacher's assistant for the Columbia School District in Maryland, and her father, Robert John McLeod, is a meteorologist for the National Weather Service. When Allie was three years old, her father's work transferred the McLeod family to Columbia, MD. The family would relocate to Boise, Idaho for several years before eventually returning to Columbia. Back in Maryland, Allie attended Wilde Lake High School. At Wilde Lake, Allie participated on the school's volleyball and lacrosse teams and was active in Students for a Better World. After high school Allie went on to study at Towson University in Maryland.

Nate was born in Appleton, Wisconsin on July 12, 1979. His mother, Vicki Lynn Kessler, is a minister at St. Paul United Church of Christ in Denver, Iowa, and his father, Kent Lee Sandstrom, is a professor at the University of Northern Iowa (UNI). Nate's family relocated to Waterloo, Iowa when his father began working at UNI. Nate attended Cedar Falls High School and was active in baseball, band and the school newspaper. He attended Iowa State University and UNI and then moved to Maryland to complete his studies at Towson University.

It was at Towson University where the future bride and groom eventually met. The two

young students belonged to the same circle of college friends, and after an initial period as good friends, the couple started dating. Their relationship blossomed and Allie and Nate became a couple. When Nate enrolled in graduate school at the University of Illinois Urbana Champaign, the couple both relocated to the Midwest. After two years in Illinois, the couple returned to Maryland in 2006 and set up home in Baltimore.

The couple enjoys spending time with family and friends, camping, and cheering on the Washington Redskins, among other activities. They were engaged on May 23, 2007, and the newlywed couple will make their home in the Federal Hill neighborhood of Baltimore. Their many friends say Allie and Nate are very well suited for each other, and their families already consider each of them a member of the family.

Allie and Nate will be joined in their wedding celebration in Baltimore's historic neighborhood of Mount Vernon by guests from across town and across the country. Family and friends are traveling from California, Illinois, Iowa, Wisconsin, New York, and South Carolina among other states. Special participants in the wedding ceremony will be Katharine Elizabeth McLeod, the bride's maid of honor; Philip Sandstrom, the groom's best man; and the other members of the wedding party: Tracey Bounds, Becca Dougherty, Kelly Neale, Lindsay Thomasson, Mark Goldman, Andrew McLeod, Patrick Newstrom, and Matt Schaffer. When they take their wedding vows, Allie and Nate will have the added honor of having Nate's mother, the Reverend Kessler, perform the ceremony.

Madam Speaker, I offer my best wishes to the McLeod and Sandstrom families, their friends and guests for a very happy and memorable celebration. To Allie and Nate, I offer the sentiment and gifts which George Bailey offered the Martini family as they moved into their new home in the classic film, *It's a Wonderful Life*, "Bread! That their house may never know hunger. Salt! That life may always have flavor. And wine! That joy and prosperity may reign forever." Lastly, I wish that throughout their wonderful life together, Allie and Nate will always have an abundance of what St. Paul wrote of in his letter to the Corinthians, "faith, hope, and love; and the greatest of these is love."

#### THANKING THE SKENTARIS FAMILY FOR THEIR SERVICE TO THE HOUSE

### HON. SHELLEY BERKLEY

OF NEVADA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 30, 2008

Ms. BERKLEY. Madam Speaker, I rise today to say farewell to the Skentaris Family, the operators of the food service in the Ford House Office Building, and to thank them for their fifteen years of outstanding service to the United States House of Representatives.

Jordan Skentaris, the patriarch of the family business, came to the United States through Ellis Island from Greece on April 17, 1955. Jordan began his food service career in New York City and eventually settled in Fayetteville, North Carolina, where his family operated restaurants for 30 years. In January 1993, Jordan, his lovely wife Soula, and their wonderful